

War of 1812

The War of 1812 was fought between the United States and Great Britain from June 1812 to the spring of 1815, although the peace treaty ending the war was signed in Europe in December 1814. The main land fighting of the war occurred along the Canadian border, in the Chesapeake Bay region, and along the Gulf of Mexico; extensive action also took place at sea.

Background

From the end of the American Revolution in 1783, the United States had been irritated by the failure of the British to withdraw from American territory along the Great Lakes; their backing of the Indians on America's frontiers; and their unwillingness to sign commercial agreements favorable to the United States. American resentment grew during the French Revolutionary Wars (1792-1802) and the Napoleonic Wars (1803-15), in which Britain and France were the main combatants. In time, France came to dominate much of the continent of Europe, while Britain remained supreme on the seas. The two powers also fought each other commercially: Britain attempted to blockade the continent of Europe, and France tried to prevent the sale of British goods in French possessions. During the 1790s, French and British maritime policies produced several crises with the United States, but after 1803 the difficulties became much more serious. The British Orders in Council of 1807 tried to channel all neutral trade to continental Europe through Great Britain, and France's Berlin and Milan decrees of 1806 and 1807 declared Britain in a state of blockade and condemned neutral shipping that obeyed British regulations (see CONTINENTAL SYSTEM). The United States believed its rights on the seas as a neutral were being violated by both nations, but British maritime policies were resented more because Britain dominated the seas. Also, the British claimed the right to take from American merchant ships any British sailors who were serving on them. Frequently, they also took Americans. This practice of impressment became a major grievance.

The United States at first attempted to change the policies of the European powers by economic means. In 1807, after the British ship *Leopard* fired on the American frigate *CHESAPEAKE*, President Thomas Jefferson urged and Congress passed an EMBARGO ACT banning all American ships from foreign trade. The embargo failed to change British and French policies but devastated New England shipping. Later and weaker economic measures were also unsuccessful.

Failing in peaceful efforts and facing an economic depression, some Americans began to argue for a declaration of war to redeem the national honor. The Congress that was elected in 1810 and met in November 1811 included a group known as the War Hawks who demanded war against Great Britain. These men were all Democratic-Republicans and mostly from the West and South. Among their leaders were John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, Henry Clay of Kentucky, and Felix Grundy of Tennessee. They argued that American honor could be saved and British policies changed by an invasion of Canada. The FEDERALIST PARTY, representing New England shippers who foresaw the ruination of their trade, opposed war. Napoleon's announcement in 1810 of the revocation of his decrees was followed by British refusals to repeal their orders, and pressures for war increased. On June 18, 1812, President James MADISON signed a declaration of war that Congress—with substantial opposition—had passed at his request. Unknown to Americans, Britain had finally, two days earlier, announced that it would revoke its orders.

Campaigns of 1812-13

U.S. forces were not ready for war, and American hopes of conquering Canada collapsed in the campaigns of 1812 and 1813. The initial plan called for a three-pronged offensive: from Lake Champlain to Montreal; across the Niagara frontier; and into Upper Canada from Detroit. The attacks were uncoordinated, however, and all failed. In the West, Gen. William HULL surrendered Detroit to the British in August 1812; on the Niagara front, American troops lost the Battle of Queenston Heights in October; and along Lake Champlain the American forces withdrew in late November without seriously engaging the enemy.

American frigates won a series of single-ship engagements with British frigates, and American privateers continually harried British shipping. The captains and crew of the frigates *CONSTITUTION* and *United States* became renowned throughout America. Meanwhile, the British gradually tightened a blockade around America's coasts, ruining American trade, threatening American finances, and exposing the entire coastline to British attack.

American attempts to invade Canada in 1813 were again mostly unsuccessful. There was a standoff at Niagara, and an elaborate attempt to attack Montreal by a combined operation involving one force advancing along Lake Champlain and another sailing down the Saint Lawrence River from Lake Ontario failed at the end of the year. The

only success was in the West. The Americans won control of the Detroit frontier region when the ships of Oliver Hazard PERRY destroyed the British fleet on Lake Erie (Sept. 10, 1813). This victory forced the British to retreat eastward from the Detroit region, and on Oct. 5, 1813, they were overtaken and defeated at the battle of the Thames (Moraviantown) by an American army under the command of Gen. William Henry HARRISON. In this battle the great Shawnee chief TECUMSEH, who had harassed the northwestern frontier since 1811, was killed while fighting on the British side.

Campaigns of 1814

In 1814 the United States faced complete defeat, because the British, having defeated Napoleon, began to transfer large numbers of ships and experienced troops to America. The British planned to attack the United States in three main areas: in New York along Lake Champlain and the Hudson River in order to sever New England from the union; at New Orleans to block the Mississippi; and in Chesapeake Bay as a diversionary maneuver. The British then hoped to obtain major territorial concessions in a peace treaty. The situation was particularly serious for the United States because the country was insolvent by the fall of 1814, and in New England opponents of the war were discussing separation from the Union. The HARTFORD CONVENTION that met in Connecticut in December 1814 and January 1815 stopped short of such an extreme step but suggested a number of constitutional amendments to restrict federal power.

The British appeared near success in the late summer of 1814. American resistance to the diversionary attack in Chesapeake Bay was so weak that the British, after winning the Battle of Bladensburg (August 24), marched into Washington, D.C., and burned most of the public buildings. President Madison had to flee into the countryside. The British then turned to attack Baltimore but met stiffer resistance and were forced to retire after the American defense of FORT MCHENRY, which inspired Francis Scott KEY to write the words of the "Star-Spangled Banner."

In the north, about 10,000 British veterans advanced into the United States from Montreal. Only a weak American force stood between them and New York City, but on Sept. 11, 1814, American Capt. Thomas MACDONOUGH won the naval battle of Lake Champlain (Plattsburg Bay), destroying the British fleet. Fearing the possibility of a severed line of communications, the British army retreated into Canada.

Peace Treaty and the Battle of New Orleans

When news of the failure of the attack along Lake Champlain reached British peace negotiators at Ghent, in the Low Countries, they decided to forego territorial demands. The United States, although originally hoping that Britain would recognize American neutral rights, was happy to end the war without major losses. The Treaty of Ghent (see GHENT, TREATY OF), signed by both powers on Dec. 24, 1814, supported, in essence, the conditions in existence at the war's onset. The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty unanimously on Feb. 17, 1815.

Because it was impossible to communicate quickly across the Atlantic, the British attack on New Orleans went ahead as planned, even though the war had officially ended, and isolated naval actions continued for a few months. In January 1815, Gen. Andrew JACKSON won a decisive victory at New Orleans over the attacking British forces: the British suffered more than 2,000 casualties; the Americans, fewer than 100. The accidental linking of the peace treaty with Jackson's victory at New Orleans convinced many Americans that the war had ended in triumph. The Hartford Convention was discredited, and a surging nationalism swept the country in the postwar years.

Reginald Horsman

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Mary Jane, born 25 June 1855 in Provo, married to Alonzo Adelbert Brim, third son of Center Ward.

Benjamin Jr., born 7 Feb. 1858 in Provo, married Mary E. John in 1883 and Hattie in 1886. He was the second president of the BYU and led an exploring expedition to Mexico and Central America to explore the ruined cities and other evidences of the authenticity of the Book of Mormon. He died 14 June 1949.

George, born 29 April 1860 in Provo, married Pamela Fortie 22 Aug. 1887 in the Mormon Temple. George died in 1928 and wife in 1946.

Mildred, born 20 April 1866 in Hawaii, married Richard Coope Harvey.

Ella M., born 2 Dec. 1869 in Hawaii, was married to George Berdnor.

David Foster, born 24 May 1873 in Provo, and was married to Cora Alexander in 1900 and later to Eunice Fern Cluff.

Walter Elmo, born 27 Nov. 1876 in Provo, married to Mary Gertrude Miller in 1902. He went East and founded the first President of the John A. Widtsoff Genealogical Society. He died in Hartford, Conn., 26 April 1943.

Benjamin's and Eliza Arnette's children are as follows:

Eliza Ann, born 16 April 1858 in Provo, and was married to Alma Hobson.

Josephine, born 15 Jan. 1860 in Provo, was married to William Jones.

Margaret Ann, born 13 July 1863 in Logan, and was married to Samuel Hobson.

Joseph L., born 7 Dec. 1864 in Logan.

William K., born 31 March 1871 in Provo.

Betty or Bessie, born 25 May 1873 in Provo, married to Hyrum Merrill 26 March 1891. She died in 1900.

Lucy, born 30 Sept. 1875 in Logan, died 1900.

Karl V., born 4 Jan. 1878 in Center Creek, Utah.

JOSEPH AND PHOEBE ELIZABETH BUNNELL CLUFF

Joseph Cluff was one of the first settlers in Center Creek. He was the sixth child of David and Betsey or Elizabeth Hall Cluff in Willoughby, Geauga County, Ohio, 11 Jan. 1834. He journeyed with his parents to Kirtland, Nauvoo and finally to

the West and Utah. He came to Utah with Blair, Williams and Company, as a teamster arriving in Salt Lake one month before his parents who came on 4 Oct. 1850. They settled in Provo where Joseph helped his father and brothers. On 28 April 1857 he married Phoebe Elizabeth Bunnell. The small farm which Joseph owned in Provo was not adequate and instead of renting, he moved with his family to settle Center Creek in 1861, where there was plenty of Government land subject to entry. In 1866 when the "Black Hawk War" broke out Brigham Young advised the people to move to larger settlements and they returned to Provo. After the war he and his brother Henry leased a farm north of Heber from Thomas Ross. They left their families in Provo and left for Heber. There was no open road through Provo Canyon and they had to shovel snow from slides to get through, finally arriving at the farm and put in crops early, which paid off. They had many harrowing experiences crossing the swollen river at Charleston. The brothers had a good crop when other crops were destroyed. In 1867 David Cluff Sr. called his boys together to cooperate in the ranch and stock-raising enterprises. They decided to go to Ross' Hollow and Joseph was chosen manager. This place was later called "Cluff's Ranch" and was located where Keetley now is. Joseph was a student of the Book of Mormon and Doctrine and Covenants and gave lectures in Heber and Kamas on the historical and geographical parts of the Nephite Record. The Cluff's fenced the meadow land and built onto the log house. Father Cluff after 43 years as a shipbuilder in New Hampshire was very good at hewing logs with a broadax. Joseph went to the Eastern States on a mission and upon his return sold his interest in the ranch to William Wallace and Henry, his brothers. He moved to Central, Graham Co., Arizona where he died 4 June 1914.

Joseph's wife Phoebe, a daughter of David Edwin and Sallie Heller Conrad Bunnell, was born 5 July 1841 in Brownstown, Wayne Co., Michigan. Her parents became converts to the Gospel and were baptized in 1840. The family moved to Nauvoo where her father assisted in the erection of the Nauvoo Temple in which they received their endowments. Phoebe was but an infant when the Prophet Joseph Smith was martyred but it affected her life because the family was persecuted along with the other Saints and

they abandoned their home and moved to Iowa. Here the family struggled to get means to join the Saints in the Rocky Mountains. Her father was a house carpenter and helped build up the communities where they lived before and after coming to Utah. They came to Utah on the 6th of Oct. 1852 in the J. C. Snow Company and then went to Provo to live. Phoebe had a lot of faith and was a good wife and mother. She went with her husband and other members of the Cluff family to Arizona where she died 9 Aug. 1914. Joseph and Phoebe were the parents of nine children as follows: 1. Joseph Edwin, born 6 Feb. 1858 in Provo. He married Elizabeth D. Moody 14 May 1884. He died 22 April 1920 at Central, Arizona. 2. David William, born 6 Sept. 1859 in Provo. He married Sarah Elda Mattice. He died 6 April 1917 at Thatcher, Arizona. 3. Joanna E., born 5 Jan. 1862. 4. Alpharetta R., born 25 Sept. 1866. 5. Emma I., born 2 Jan. 1868. 6. Warren Lafayette, born 23 April 1871. 7. Clarissa V., born 10 March 1874. 8. Romania O., born 5 Jan. 1877. 9. Benjamin Franklin, born 29 April 1880 and married Rhoda Isabella Blain 11 Oct. 1905. He died in Central, Arizona 23 July 1935.

DAVID CLUFF, SR., AND ELIZABETH HALL CLUFF



David Cluff Sr., although not a settler himself, secured property in Wasatch Valley so that his sons could settle the valley. He spent many days helping his sons get established. David was born 20 June 1795 at Nottingham, Rockingham Co., New Hampshire, a son of William and Susannah Runnells Clough. When a small child he went with his family to Danville, Canada. He returned to the United States at the outbreak of the War of 1812 where he served his country. He returned to Canada and

at the age of 29 married Betsey or Elizabeth Hall, daughter of Moses and Lucy Fowler Hall. She was born 10 July 1805 at Barnet, Caledonia Co., Vermont. They were married 11 Jan. 1824 at Shipton, Quebec, Canada. She was always by her husband's side, being a true and faithful wife. She gave birth to twelve children in twenty-three years, rearing everyone to womanhood and manhood. The family moved back to New Hampshire where David continued his trade as a shipbuilder. He became interested in Mormonism in 1830 and while on a river boat on his way to Ohio he met Martin Harris and after hearing his testimony to the Book of Mormon was a ready convert. They moved to Ohio in 1831 and in 1832 they were baptized. They helped in constructing the Kirtland and the Nauvoo Temples. They came to Utah arriving in Salt Lake City 4 Oct. 1850. They went to Provo where they settled. It was from here that the family moved and settled Wasatch Valley. They also raised a son from a second wife. They were true pioneers for at the age of 85 they left to settle the Gila Valley in Arizona. Betsey or Elizabeth died on 5 June 1881 and six months later her husband David followed on 6 Dec. 1881, at the age of 86 and they were buried in Pima, Arizona. They left a wonderful family who were stalwarts in the Church and community. The children are as follows: Lavina, David Jr., Moses, Benjamin, William Wallace, Joseph, Harvey Harris, Samuel Sampson, Hyrum, Henry, Alfred, Orson and Jerry.

OLIVE CAROLINE HILL CLUFF

Olive Caroline Hill was the third wife of David Cluff Jr. and was born in the State of Virginia. As she arrived at womanhood her parents moved from Virginia to South Carolina, where they lived during the Civil War. Soon after this war the Mormon Elders came into that section of the country and she became converted and was baptized. She had a desire to gather with the Saints in Utah, where she was married to David Cluff Jr. on 6 May 1871. She passed through many trials but she never had a desire to return to her birthplace. She had one son, Robert William born 12 March 1872 in Provo, Utah. They came to Center to live and lived on the place now owned by Kenneth Anderson. Her son lived near her with

his wife, Martha Elizabeth Heaten, whom he married 31 Dec. 1895.

HYRUM AND LILA THOMPSON CHRISTENSEN



Hyrum A. Christensen was born March 8, 1885 at Heber, a son of Christian P. and Caroline Kofford Christensen. He married Lila Thompson on June 22, 1916. She was born August 30, 1898 at Heber, a daughter of William and Nancy Barnes Thompson. Hyrum and Lila were the parents of one daughter and four sons: Ellen (Mrs. Louis Lindsay), 2nd Mrs. Howard Ballard, LaMar who married Norma Lewis, Harold who married Dorothy Sevy, Garold who married Phyllis Jordan and Russell who married Lynile Schear. Hyrum died July 21, 1957.

An active farmer, Hyrum was successful as a stock raiser and land owner. He was an active worker in the Church and served 12 years as a counselor in the Center Ward bishopric. Lila has also been active in the Church, and has been an officer in all the Church auxiliary organizations.

CHRISTIAN P. AND CAROLINE KOFFORD CHRISTENSEN



Christian Peter Christensen was born April 10, 1839 in Lundby, Aalborg, Denmark to



Ethan L. Brown spent most of his life in Charleston, except for a few years when he lived at his ranch on the Duchesne River near Tabiona.

They were the parents of seven children: E. K. Brown, George N. Brown, Mrs. Edith Clayburn, Mrs. Lola Ringwood, Mrs. Jennie B. Duke, Mrs. Lucille White, Mrs. Reta Clark.

GEORGE W. BROWN



George W. Brown was born in 1827 in Ohio. Died in 1906 at Charleston, Utah. He married Emma Barrows.

One of the original band of Utah pioneers, this veteran enjoyed the additional distinction of being one of the very first to put the plow into the soil of the future commonwealth.

George W. Brown was a native of Ohio, his father being a pioneer of the "North-western Reserve" and a veteran of the War of 1812. The family moved back to New York state after the death of her husband and father, and there some of them received "Mormonism" and again moved westward to Nauvoo in 1843, also operating a farm on this side of the Mississippi River in Iowa. George W. Brown served as a body-guard to Joseph Smith, and after the martyrdom and expulsion, he came to the Missouri

river where, early in 1847, he came with the first pioneers to Utah. He was among those who went back with President Young to Winter Quarters after settlement in the Salt Lake Valley was established, and having rented a farm in Missouri, he remained there until 1850 when he again came to Utah bringing his mother, brother and sister with him. He resided at various times at Springville, Kamas, Wallsburg and finally at Charleston, where he died in 1906.

GEORGE ROBERT CARLILE



George Robert Carlile, son of George and Laura Ann Giles Carlile was born 19 June 1865 at Heber and died 29 Oct. 1938, at Charleston. He married Marion R. Neil 19 Dec. 1888. She was a daughter of William Neil and Marion Robertson Neil. She was born 18 July 1870, Salt Lake City and died 31 August 1946, Heber.

To this couple were born six children, Shelia Ann (Mrs. Thomas Frederick Winterton), Earl Neil married Lula Daybell, George William married Fern Price, John Hartley married Florence Price, Pearl died, Roe married Pansy Winterton.

George Robert Carlile was the first son born to his parents. He had three older sisters, Maria Ann, Sarah Jane and Lavina Elizabeth, also three younger brothers, Thomas Franklin, Alfred Lorenzo, and William Moore Carlile.

When very young he would get up early in the morning and go with his oldest sister Maria and shock wheat for hands to bind the grain as it was cut with a cradle. After he started to school, he attended in a one-room school house. The benches were made of slabs with holes bored in and pegs put in for legs. His teachers were Eliza Smith, Louisa Smith, Henry Clegg and William Buys. When he attended Henry Clegg's School it was in the courthouse.

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